

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 651

To amend SAFETEA–LU to improve the Intelligent Transportation System Program Advisory Committee, to require information and resources for the development of local smart communities, to help establish a 21st century transportation workforce, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 9, 2021

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

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# A BILL

To amend SAFETEA–LU to improve the Intelligent Transportation System Program Advisory Committee, to require information and resources for the development of local smart communities, to help establish a 21st century transportation workforce, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-  
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Smart Transportation  
5 Advancement and Transition Act” or the “STAT Act”.

## 1 SEC. 2. INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PRO-

2 **GRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

3 Section 5305 of SAFETEA–LU (23 U.S.C. 512 note;

4 Public Law 109–59) is amended by striking subsection (h)

5 and inserting the following:

## 6 “(h) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall estab-

8 lish an advisory committee (referred to in this sub-

9 section as the ‘Committee’) to advise the Secretary

10 in carrying out this subtitle.

## 11 “(2) MEMBERSHIP.—

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Committee

13 shall—

14 “(i) be composed of not more than 25

15 members;

16 “(ii) be balanced between metropoli-

17 tan and rural interests; and

18 “(iii) include, at a minimum—

19 “(I) a representative of a State

20 department of transportation;

21 “(II) a representative of a local

22 department of transportation (other

23 than a metropolitan planning organi-

24 zation);

25 “(III) a representative of a State,

26 local, or regional transit agency;

1                 “(IV) a representative of a met-  
2                 ropolitan planning organization;

3                 “(V) a representative of a na-  
4                 tional transit association;

5                 “(VI) a representative of a na-  
6                 tional, State, or local transportation  
7                 agency or association;

8                 “(VII) a private sector user of in-  
9                 telligent transportation system tech-  
10                 nologies, including emerging vehicle  
11                 technologies;

12                 “(VIII) a private sector developer  
13                 of intelligent transportation system  
14                 technologies, including emerging vehi-  
15                 cle technologies;

16                 “(IX) an academic researcher—

17                 “(aa) with expertise in com-  
18                 puter science or another informa-  
19                 tion science field related to intel-  
20                 ligent transportation systems;

21                 and

22                 “(bb) who is not an expert  
23                 on transportation issues;

1                 “(X) an academic researcher in  
2 civil engineering or a civil engineering  
3 practitioner;

4                 “(XI) an academic researcher  
5 who is a social scientist with expertise  
6 in transportation issues;

7                 “(XII) an academic researcher  
8 with expertise in labor issues, includ-  
9 ing—

10                 “(aa) disruptions due to  
11 technology; and

12                 “(bb) opportunities and bar-  
13 riers related to transportation  
14 and the incorporation of emerg-  
15 ing technology;

16                 “(XIII) a representative of a  
17 nonprofit group representing the intel-  
18 ligent transportation system industry;

19                 “(XIV) a representative of a pub-  
20 lic interest group concerned with safe-  
21 ty, including bicycle and pedestrian  
22 interests;

23                 “(XV) a representative of a labor  
24 organization;

1                         “(XVI) a representative of a mobility-providing entity, including for  
2                         seniors and people with disabilities;

3  
4                         “(XVII) an expert in traffic management;

5  
6                         “(XVIII) a representative of a public interest group concerned with  
7                         the impact of the transportation system on land use and residential patterns, including housing availability;

8  
9  
10                         “(XIX) members with expertise in planning, safety, and operations;

11  
12                         “(XX) a member with expertise in law enforcement; and

13  
14                         “(XXI) a member with expertise in cybersecurity.

15  
16                         “(B) TERM.—

17  
18                         “(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii), the term of a member  
19                         of the Committee shall be 3 years.

20  
21                         “(ii) STAGGERED TERMS.—

22  
23                         “(I) IN GENERAL.—Of the members first appointed to the Committee—

1                         “(aa)  $\frac{1}{3}$  shall be appointed  
2                         for a term of 1 year;  
3                         “(bb)  $\frac{1}{3}$  shall be appointed  
4                         for a term of 2 years; and  
5                         “(cc)  $\frac{1}{3}$  shall be appointed  
6                         for a term of 3 years.

7                         “(II) TIMING.—The terms de-  
8                         scribed in subclause (I) shall not  
9                         begin until the last member of the  
10                        members referred to in that subclause  
11                        is appointed.

12                        “(iii) RENEWAL.—On expiration of  
13                        the term of a member of the Committee,  
14                        the member—

15                        “(I) may be reappointed; and  
16                        “(II) if the member is not re-  
17                        appointed under subclause (I), may  
18                        serve until a new member is ap-  
19                        pointed.

20                        “(3) DUTIES.—The Committee shall, at a min-  
21                        imum—

22                        “(A) provide input into the development of  
23                        the intelligent transportation system aspects of  
24                        the 5-year strategic plan under section 6503 of  
25                        title 49, United States Code;

1               “(B) annually review areas of intelligent  
2               transportation systems programs and research  
3               being considered for funding by the Depart-  
4               ment, to determine—

5               “(i) whether those areas of research  
6               are likely to advance the state of the prac-  
7               tice or state of the art in intelligent trans-  
8               portation systems;

9               “(ii) whether intelligent transportation  
10              system technologies are likely to be de-  
11              ployed by users, and if not, to determine  
12              the barriers to deployment;

13              “(iii) the appropriate roles for govern-  
14              ment and the private sector in investing in  
15              the research and technologies being consid-  
16              ered;

17              “(iv) how Federal resources, especially  
18              resources provided by the Department, are  
19              being utilized to advance intelligent trans-  
20              portation systems; and

21              “(v) how the Department is engaging  
22              and supporting local communities in the  
23              adoption and integration of intelligent  
24              transportation systems across all modes;

1               “(C) help develop and revise the resource  
2               guide described in section 4(b) of the Smart  
3               Transportation Advancement and Transition  
4               Act; and

5               “(D) through the appropriate office of the  
6               Department, help respond to requests for as-  
7               sistance, advice, or consultation from States  
8               and local communities as a result of the re-  
9               source guide described in section 4(b) of the  
10               Smart Transportation Advancement and Tran-  
11               sition Act.

12               “(4) MEETINGS.—The Committee—

13               “(A) shall convene not less frequently than  
14               twice each year; and

15               “(B) may convene with the use of remote  
16               video conference technology.

17               “(5) ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary may provide  
18               to the Committee personnel or expertise from the  
19               Department to assist the Committee in carrying out  
20               the duties of the Committee.

21               “(6) REPORT.—Not later than February 1 of  
22               each year beginning after the date of enactment of  
23               the Smart Transportation Advancement and Transi-  
24               tion Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Commit-  
25               tees on Appropriations, Commerce, Science, and

1       Transportation, and Environment and Public Works  
2       of the Senate and the Committees on Appropriations  
3       and Transportation and Infrastructure of the House  
4       of Representatives a report that includes—

5                 “(A) the recommendations made by the  
6       Committee during the preceding calendar year;

7                 “(B) an explanation of how the Secretary  
8       has implemented those recommendations; and

9                 “(C) for any recommendation not imple-  
10       mented, an explanation of the reasons for not  
11       implementing the recommendation.

12                 “(7) APPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL ADVISORY  
13       COMMITTEE ACT.—The Committee shall be subject  
14       to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C.  
15       App.).”.

16 **SEC. 3. REPORT ON LOCAL ENGAGEMENT.**

17       Not later than 150 days after the date of enactment  
18 of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of  
19 Transportation, in coordination with the advisory com-  
20 mittee established under section 5305(h) of SAFETEA–  
21 LU (23 U.S.C. 512 note; Public Law 109–59), shall sub-  
22 mit to the Committees on Appropriations, Commerce,  
23 Science, and Transportation, and Environment and Public  
24 Works of the Senate and the Committees on Appropria-  
25 tions and Transportation and Infrastructure of the House

1 of Representatives a report on efforts by the Department  
2 of Transportation to engage with local communities, met-  
3 ropolitan planning organizations, regional transportation  
4 commissions, and multijurisdictional groups, including in  
5 rural areas, on advancing data and intelligent transpor-  
6 tation systems technologies and other smart cities solu-  
7 tions.

8 **SEC. 4. SMART COMMUNITY RESOURCE GUIDE.**

9 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

10 (1) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—The term “advi-  
11 sory committee” means the advisory committee es-  
12 tablished under section 5305(h) of SAFETEA-LU  
13 (23 U.S.C. 512 note; Public Law 109–59).

14 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
15 the Secretary of Transportation.

16 (3) SMART COMMUNITY.—The term “smart  
17 community” means a community that uses innova-  
18 tive technologies, data, analytics, and other means to  
19 improve the community and address local challenges.

20 (4) SMART COMMUNITY RESOURCE GUIDE.—  
21 The term “smart community resource guide” means  
22 the resource guide created, published, and main-  
23 tained under subsection (b).

24 (b) RESOURCE GUIDE.—The Secretary, in consulta-  
25 tion with the advisory committee, shall create, publish,

1 and maintain a resource guide that is designed to assist  
2 States and local communities in developing and imple-  
3 menting intelligent transportation technology or smart  
4 community transportation programs.

5 (c) INCLUSIONS.—The smart community resource  
6 guide may include—

7 (1) a compilation of existing related Federal  
8 and non-Federal programs that are available to  
9 States and local communities in developing and im-  
10 plementing smart community transportation pro-  
11 grams, including technical assistance, education,  
12 training, research and development, analysis, and  
13 funding;

14 (2) available examples of States and local com-  
15 munities engaging private sector entities to carry out  
16 smart community transportation solutions, including  
17 public-private partnership models that could be used  
18 to leverage private sector funding to solve local chal-  
19 lenges;

20 (3) available examples of proven methods for  
21 States and local communities to facilitate the inte-  
22 gration of smart community transportation tech-  
23 nologies with, or within, new and existing infrastruc-  
24 ture and systems;

1                             (4) best practices and lessons learned from  
2                             smart community transportation demonstration  
3                             projects, including information on return on invest-  
4                             ment and performance, to help other States and  
5                             local communities to decide how to begin the inte-  
6                             gration of smart community transportation tech-  
7                             nologies; and

8                             (5) other topics—

9                                 (A) as requested by industry entities,  
10                             States, or local governments; or  
11                                 (B) as determined to be necessary by the  
12                             Secretary and the advisory committee.

13                             (d) USE OF EXISTING GUIDES.—In creating, pub-  
14                             lishing, and maintaining the smart community resource  
15                             guide, the Secretary shall consider existing Federal, State,  
16                             and local community information, guides, and other re-  
17                             sources that relate to smart community transportation  
18                             goals, activities, and best practices—

19                                 (1) to prevent duplication of efforts by the Fed-  
20                             eral Government;

21                                 (2) to improve local accessibility to Federal pro-  
22                             grams; and

23                                 (3) to leverage existing, complementary efforts.

24                             (e) OUTREACH.—The Secretary, with input from the  
25                             advisory committee at the determination of the Secretary,

1 shall conduct outreach to States, counties, local commu-  
2 nities, and other relevant entities—

3                 (1) to provide interested stakeholders with the  
4                 smart community resource guide, including through  
5                 publication of the guide on the internet;

6                 (2) to promote the consideration of smart com-  
7                 munity transportation technologies;

8                 (3) to encourage States and local governments  
9                 to contribute smart community transportation pro-  
10                 gram and activity information to the smart commu-  
11                 nity resource guide;

12                 (4) to identify—

13                         (A) barriers to the adoption of smart com-  
14                 munity transportation technologies; and

15                         (B) any research, development, and other  
16                 assistance that is needed that could be included  
17                 in the smart community resource guide; and

18                 (5) for other purposes, as identified by the Sec-  
19                 retary or the advisory committee.

20                 (f) REVISION.—The Secretary and the advisory com-  
21                 mittee shall issue a revised smart community resource  
22                 guide not less frequently than once every 3 years.

